Northern Railways respectively, are as given below :—

SEVENTH FIVE YEAR PLAN

Gauge	North Eastern Railway		Northern Railway	
	Target	Holding	Target	Holding
Broad Gauge	3880	4666	55640	55931
Metre Gauge	13200	16098	8600	8986
	AT THE END OF 1991 (DECEMBER, 1991)			
Broad Gauge	3800	6601	58000	59398
Metre Gauge	11500	12012	7500	8751

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The position during November, 1992 is as follows :—

(In terms of 4-wheeler units)

	North Eastern Railway	Northern Railway
No. of wagons received . .	264	1665
No. of wagons repaired . . .	238	1585.5
No. of wagons condemned . .	70	125

(e) Procurement of wagons is planned for the entire Indian Railways. The needs of individual Zonal Railways are met from this common pool. During the Eighth Five Year Plan 1,20,000 broad gauge wagons are planned to be procured, subject to availability of funds. Surplus metre gauge wagons of North Eastern, Northern and other Railways where gauge conversion is planned will be available to meet any additional requirements.

Financial Assistance to DTC

2555. SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the financial assistance extended by Government to the Delhi Transport Corporation;

(b) whether any recovery has been made; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) A total financial assistance of Rs. 930.42 crores has been extended to DTC during the period 3-11-71 to November, 1992.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Recovery of DTC

2556. SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal is under Government's consideration to get back the Delhi Transport Corporation on the road to recovery; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b) Government are finalising an inter-connected package for the rehabilitation of Delhi Transport Corporation in order to ensure its long term viability. Conversion of DTC into a company is one of the options that will be taken up for

consideration. The other main suggestions for consideration include :—

— reduction of surplus man power;

— rationalising the size of DTC to 3500 buses;

— withdrawal from loss making routes;

— capital restructuring of DTC;

— reimbursement by Govt. of the losses on account of concessional passes; and

— revision of the student concessional passes.

Repair of Vivekananda Setu in West Bengal

2557. SHRI ASHIS SEN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have prepared a project of Rs. 12 crores for the repair of the Vivekananda Setu at Bally in West Bengal;

(b) whether the requisite funds have since been released; and

(c) if so, when the same was released ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A provision of Rs. 2 crores has been made for the work during 1992-93 and will be met out of the total allocation of Rs. 9.00 crores for National Highway works (excluding externally aided projects). A sum of Rs. 2.5 crores has already been released as 'on account' payment. Further funds will be released depending on expenditure incurred.

Ropeway in Himachal Pradesh

2558. SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that safety norms were violated by the promoters of the ropeway leading to recent mishap at Parwanoo in Solan district of Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government are in process of approving another five new ropeway projects in the State; and

(d) if so, whether Government have taken adequate care of the safety aspect of these projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (d) The ropeways are a State subject under the Constitution of India Entry No. 13 of VII Schedule-List II, State List. The State Government is competent to sanction such projects. Hence, the Central Government is not concerned.

Extension and Maintenance of National Highway No. 55

2559. SHRI RATNA BAHADUR RAI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have taken the charge of newly declared National Highway No. 55 from the West Bengal Government;

(b) if so, the funds allotted for its extension and upkeep for the year 1991-92;

(c) the funds released till date; and

(d) the details of the works taken up so far thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Yes, Sir. After declaration of the road as a new National Highway on 6-11-90, its development and maintenance has become the responsibility of Govt. of India.

(b) and (c) At present there is no proposal for extension of this National Highway beyond Darjeeling. For maintenance of this National Highway, Rs. 53.82 lakhs were released during 1991-92.

(d) Two improvement works costing Rs. 82.149 lakhs and three repair works costing Rs. 48.103 lakhs have been sanctioned so far on this National Highway.

2560. [Transferred to 21st December, 1992]